AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS
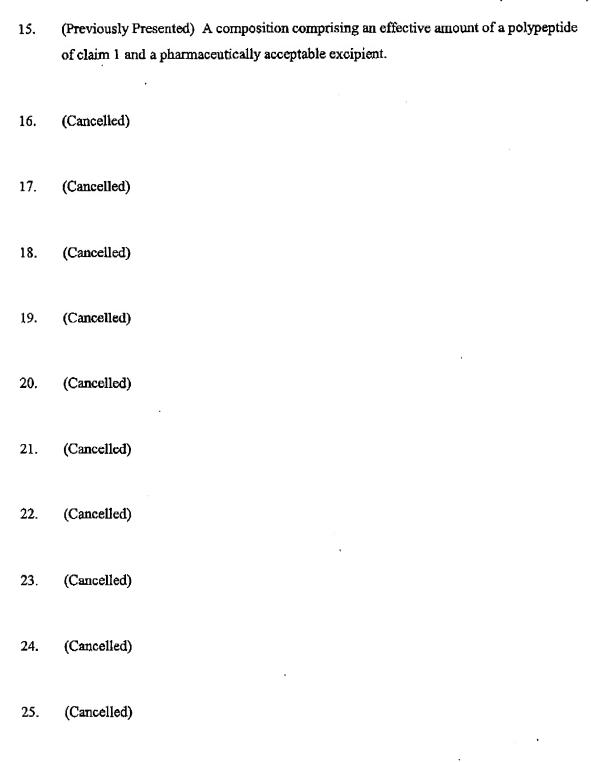
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) An isolated polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

 (a)   a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:19,

 (b)   a polypeptide comprising an ~~a naturally-occurring~~ amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 19, and

 (c)   a ~~biologically active~~ polypeptide fragment ~~of a polypeptide~~ comprising at least 30 contiguous ~~the~~ amino acids ~~acid sequence~~ of SEQ ID NO:19~~, and~~ .

 ~~d)   an immunogenic fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:19.~~

2.   (Previously Presented) An isolated polypeptide of claim 1, having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:19.

3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Cancelled)

5.   (Cancelled)

6.   (Cancelled)

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DLMR256802.1

GE 7/25 * RCVD AT 7/21/2004 7:49:41 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID: * DURATION (mm-ss):06-16

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide of claim 1, the method comprising:

    (a) culturing a cell under conditions suitable for expression of the polypeptide, wherein said cell is transformed with a ~~recombinant polynucleotide and said recombinant polynucleotide comprises a promoter sequence operably linked to a~~ polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of claim 1, and

    (b) recovering the polypeptide so expressed.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

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DLMR256802.1

15. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising an effective amount of a polypeptide of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

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26.   (Cancelled)

27.   (Cancelled)

28.   (New) A method for screening a compound for effectiveness as an agonist of the polypeptide of claim 1, said method comprising:

(a)   exposing a sample comprising the polypeptide of claim 1 to a compound;

(b)   detecting the presence of any agonist activity in said sample.

29.   (New) A method for screening a compound for effectiveness as an antagonist of the polypeptide of claim 1, said method comprising:

(a)   exposing a sample comprising the polypeptide of claim 1 to a compound;

(b)   detecting the presence of any antagonist activity in said sample.